

NORTH VERNON CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
CARNEGIE GOVERNMENT CENTER
143 EAST WALNUT, N VERNON, IN 47265
JUNE 26, 2017

The meeting was opened by Mayor Mike Ochs with a prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Clerk-Treasurer Gerkin completed roll call:

Mayor- Mike Ochs

Clerk-Treasurer- R Shawn Gerkin

Attorney- Larry Greathouse

Councilmembers-Brian Hatfield

Jack Kelley

Jerry Lamb

Connie Rayburn

Trent Wisner

Assistant Clerk-Treasurer- Rita Elmore (absent)

Guests present: Kathy Ertel, Barbara King, Jeff Shinolt, Chuck Waggoner, Hannah Brooks, Elaine Leahigh, Mike McLeod, Joanne Campbell, Soup Campbell, Mary Pettigrew, Rich Melton, Russell Vaught, Steve Litzy, and Keith Messer.

Councilman Lamb made the motion to approve the minutes of the June 12, 2017 City Council Meeting as written and presented, seconded by Councilman Kelley. Motion carried 5-0.

Residents on Oakwood Drive and Myrtle Street in North Vernon were present to let Council know of an issue in the neighborhood with too many vehicles parking illegally and inappropriately. There are currently two assisted living homes on the streets, and due to the number of employees each home has, cars are being parked on sidewalks, in streets, blocking fire hydrants, and too close to intersections and stop signs. Residents Soup Campbell, Elaine Leahigh, Hannah Brooks, Mike McLeod, and Steve Litzy all spoke on their concerns for safety of themselves, their homes, and the children who use and occupy a daycare on the street. After discussion, Council assured them they would direct the City Engineer, Brad Bender, to look in to where they can and can't park, as well as review any ordinances and state statutes with Police Chief James Webster to look into how to solve the problem.

Clerk Treasurer Gerkin presented Council with Resolution #644-2017, a resolution regarding the expansion of the Industrial Park Economic Development Area. The resolution, in short, affirms the Council finds it in the best interest of the City of North Vernon to expand the TIF area to include the area north of the City annexed in 2015. Councilman Kelley made the motion to accept Resolution #644-2017, seconded by Council Woman Rayburn. Motion carried 5-0.

Kathy Ertel, EDC Director, presented an SB-1 from GT Industries for a tax abatement. The abatement is a ten-year abatement for \$55,000,000.00 in equipment that will create 120 additional jobs. After discussion, Councilwoman Rayburn made the motion approve the abatement, known as Resolution #645-2017, seconded by Councilman Lamb. Motion carried 5-0.

Brad Bender asked for guidance on tearing down the old Ready-Mix building on 4th & German Streets. The project had been previously quoted with Gosman Construction the lowest bid. Councilman Kelley made the motion to award the demolition of the building, leaving the slab, for \$8400.00. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hatfield. Motion carried 5-0.

Brad Bender provided Council with a list of 20 projects to be completed with funding from the 2018 Community Crossroad Matching Grant. He informed Council that to move forward with the application, INDOT needed a commitment from the City for a 25% match on the project. Clerk Treasurer Gerkin told Council that \$310,000.00 has already been set aside from the 2017 project as well as project CEDIT funds. After discussion, Councilwoman Rayburn made the motion to commit the funds for the City's match for the project, seconded by Councilman Kelley. Motion carried 5-0.

Director of Golf Robin Brown requested from Council four different transfers from within the golf fund. After discussion, Councilman Kelley made the motion to approve the transfers, seconded by Councilwoman Rayburn. Motion carried 5-0. Also, Mr. Brown discussed with Council the drainage issues at the golf course, caused by water coming off the aviation property. Council director Mr. Brown and the Mayor to attend the next Aviation Board Meeting to try to work out a resolution to the problem.

Clerk Treasurer introduced and completed the first reading of amended Ordinance #898, an ordinance setting the sewer rates for 2018, 2019, and 2020. Second reading and potential adoption will be on the agenda for the June 26, 2017 meeting.

Councilmembers Kelley and Hatfield requested that discussion and update on the Walnut/Buckeye Street at the next council meeting.

City Attorney Larry Greathouse explained to Council that he and Clerk Treasurer Gerkin have been working a local bank on financing the solar project. There are a couple of items still to be worked out but both parties are close to an agreement. Councilman Kelley made the motion to move forward with the project as Mr. Greathouse, Mr. Gerkin, and Mr. Bender sees appropriate, including giving authorization to the Mayor to sign the documents when necessary. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hatfield. Motion carried 4-1 (Lamb).

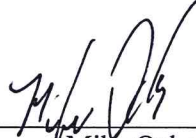
Councilman Hatfield made the to pay the claims presented, seconded by Councilman Wisner. Motion to pay the claims approved 5-0.

Councilman Wisner made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Hatfield. Motion to adjourn carried 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:23 PM.



R Shawn Gerkin, Clerk-Treasurer



Mike Ochs, Mayor